

# Report Sale of Standard Oil Property

The long awaited news that the sale of some 200 acres of Standard Oil Co. property in South Torrance had been completed and that a huge construction program was slated for the property, was received Friday afternoon.

The property, known as

the Marble Fee tract, fronts on the south side of Sepulveda, between Madrona and Crenshaw Blvd.

City officials and newsmen alike have been waiting for nearly two months for the sale of the property to clear escrow.

Purchaser of the prop-

erty is the Sierra Corporation of San Francisco, a subsidiary of the Utah Construction and Mining Company.

Purchase price of the property was not disclosed but is rumored to be in excess of \$2,500,000.

Property, which is pres-

ently zoned for industrial use, will spearhead a new era of "balanced development" in Torrance, spokesmen for the purchasing firm said.

Immediate plans call for the development of the tract for light manufacturing, commercial and residential use.

Residential portion will probably be apartments and multiple units.

## ADJACENT

Newly purchased land parcel lies adjacent to the Marble Estates property scene of a smouldering controversy several

months ago.

Developers had attempted to get the 155 acre Marble Estates tract rezoned from industrial to residential use and indicated that they would build some 600 single family residences on the land, which adjoins present

housing development at the corner of Sepulveda and Crenshaw Blvd.

Rezoning try failed after circulation of petitions and an extended court action.

City officials said that the sale of the huge tract of land heralded a new era of growth and devel-

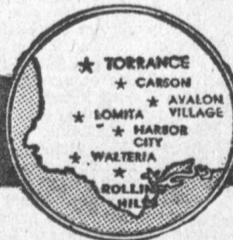
opment along Sepulveda Blvd. where some of the city's largest parcels of undeveloped land now lie.

Close to one of the largest commercial centers in the community the development of this property should give the necessary impetus to the future growth of the area.

LATEST TORRANCE POPULATION

# 108,506

October 1, 1961, Estimate



## TORRANCE PRESS

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# DEATH TRY BY YOUTH



ANNUAL "DRESS-UP" FOR TOUCAN ST.—The Christmas decorations are going up this week along Toucan St., known as the "Santa Claus Lane" of Torrance. Residents along the street each year allot hours of thought and weeks of labor in making magnificent Christmas displays in front of each house. Project is well-known through the Southland



and has even been covered on television. Above, left, placing spun glass "snow" in front of their residence at 4504 Toucan are Mr. and Mrs. Al Dain. Snow will cover the entire front lawn and a Christmas scene will be added later. Right, adjusting a spotlight which will illuminate his Yule decorations is Edward Du Puis of 4626 Toucan. Light will

be focused on Christmas tree, decorations and a figurine of Santa Claus. After displays are completed, street will be converted to one way to relieve traffic congestion caused by the hundreds of South Bay residents flocking to see the decorated houses. Many of the displays will feature animated scenes —Press Photos

## Burglar Fires As Arresting Officer Nears

A Torrance youth is in critical condition at Gardena General Hospital today after shooting himself in the head to avoid arrest as a burglary suspect.

Listed in critical condition by hospital physicians is Attilio Granzella, 24, of 20413 S. New Hampshire.

Investigating officers stated that they received a call early yesterday morning to check out a burglary at Arico's Market 15202 Hawthorne Blvd., Lawndale.

During the checkout at the store officers discovered that an attempt had been made to break open the safe containing the rest of the day's receipts.

Six police officers, with drawn guns, then went over the premises to see if the

suspect was still there. In a storage room to the rear of the store one of the officers approached a pile of boxes.

When he neared the stack he heard a gun fired on the other side. On the far side of the pile of boxes he found Granzella lying with pistol on the floor beside him. Nearby, they found a small drill motor with which the suspect had apparently tried to open the safe.

TUESDAY DEADLINE . . .

## Jaycees Schedule Third Yule Decorating Contest

A city-wide announcement that the Torrance Jaycee's will conduct their third annual outdoor Christmas Display Contest this year was released Friday by Chairman John Robinson and Junior Chamber President Jerry Dunn.

All residents of the city of Torrance are eligible to enter the contest. Entry forms are available at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce office, 2204 Torrance Boulevard. All entries must be in by December 19.

Judging will be conducted by members of the JayCee's between December 19 and

December 22. Competition will be divided into two divisions, religious and novelty, with awards presented to the winner in each division. Awards will be presented on the evening of December 22.

Entry blanks should be mailed to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

## Advertise Bids For Restoration Of Local Beaches

Advertising for bids for restoration of Redondo-Clifton County Beach was announced this week by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Action came following a request by Chace last week that plans and specifications to halt erosion at the two county beaches be expedited.

The Board of Supervisors approved specifications for the project which call for excavating, transporting and placing approximately 100,000 cubic yards of inland dune sand on the eroded portion of Redondo and Clifton County beaches.

A local improvement company has offered to give free of charge to the County approximately 100,000 cubic yards of sand.

Chace noted that "the time to act is now because County buildings and service roads valued at \$100,000 are

in jeopardy and 100,000 cubic yards of sand are available free of charge to do the job."

Although the sand will be given free, cost of excavating, transporting and placing the sand on the eroded tract.

portions of the County-owned beaches is estimated at \$68,000.

Bids will be opened on January 3. Construction time is estimated at 45 days after execution of the contract.



WAY BEHIND—Collections for the annual U. S. Marine "Toys for Tots" program are lagging behind in the Torrance area, it was reported yesterday by Major R. H. Harter, in charge of the drive. Collection barrels for the toys can be found at all Torrance fire stations, he said. Here Harter talks over the problem with Margie Reed, Miss Toys for Tots, and Torrance Fire Chief J. J. Benner. (Story, page 2.)

## Restraining Order Hearing Delayed; Reset for Dec. 27

A restraining order, prohibiting further action by the city council against plans to build an apartment house in South Torrance, will remain in effect, it was reported Friday evening.

Hearing on the restraining order had been called for Friday morning in Inglewood Superior Court but was deferred until Wednesday, Dec. 27 because of a crowded court calendar.

Case will be heard by Superior Court Judge Howard McLain, who also signed the restraining order.

Permanent injunction is sought by builder George Bloxom, who plans to construct the units on Madison Ave., between 227th St. and 230th St.

Permission to build the apartments was granted at an earlier session but, when some 150 signed protests were submitted to the council, it was decided to reopen the case for further study.

At this point Bloxom, through his attorney Parke Moewe, sought and received the restraining order.

City is represented by Stanley Remelmeyer, city attorney.

Hearing will determine whether the city will be released to make further decisions in the case or whether a permanent injunction will be issued.

## 'Babyfaced' Bandit Robs Service Station Attendant

In a daring midweek robbery a gun waving bandit, described as "baby-faced" by his victim, calmly held up a service station attendant and walked away with an estimated \$100 in receipts.

Allen Denbo, night attendant at Pauley's Service Station, 1886 Lomita Blvd., told investigating officers that the gunman hid in the men's restroom until the station was clear of customers. After the last customer left the bandit came out, pointed a 22 caliber pistol at Denbo and ordered him to hand over the money in the cash drawer.

### EVEN COINS

After taking the entire drawer including small coins the suspect herded the attendant into a back room of the station, told him not to come out for "five minutes" and departed on foot. Denbo told the officers that he waited for one minute before coming out and telephoning the police.

He said that he had another \$150 in his pocket but was not searched by the bandit.

Suspect was described as being about 5'7" in height, weight about 150 pounds, wearing a grey felt hat, grey car coat and tan slacks. Denbo said that he was "light complected and looked very young."

Police cars scoured the neighborhood but no trace of the suspect was found.



OVER THE TOP — Palos Verdes Estates police officers are shown investigating accident in which Mrs. Cleo E. Moss, 39, of 527 Calle Mayor in Hollywood Riviera was injured. Auto driven by Mrs. Moss failed to make sharp turn on Palos Verdes drive

West and went over the cliff. The car fell more than 80 feet before coming to a halt against a retaining wall behind a home. She was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital for treatment of minor injuries.

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